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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/781,448	02/18/2004	Barry Bratcher	N9911	3474

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EXAMINER
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PAHNG, JASON Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3725

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/781,448	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BRATCHER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Jason Y Pahng	<b>Art Unit</b> 3725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 April 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 88-93 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 88,92 and 93 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 89-91 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

As set forth in the last Office action and repeated herein, claims 89-91 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

As set forth in the last Office action and repeated herein, claim 88 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Osawa (US 5,993,795) in view of Skerik (US 4,907,167). Osawa discloses substantially all of the claimed structure including:

1. a grinder (column 4, line 66 – column 5, line 7);
2. a juice pH monitoring and adjustment (column 5, lines 32-50);
3. a heater to heat the juice to a first temperature for a first length of time (column 5, lines 32-50); and

4. a centrifuge (column 5, line 51-53).

Osawa does not disclose automation via computer control of the above processing apparatus.

Skeirik discloses a computer automation of manufacturing systems as summarized in the abstract. Skeirik discloses motivation for the usage of the computer controlling system for manufacturing processes (column 2, line 66 – column 3, line 15) including reduced cost, improved quality, etc. Thus, Skeirik's control system is deemed reasonably to be suggested for any manufacturing process including the above reference. Columns 10-28 of Skeirik summarizes a wide variety of controllable manufacturing processes including specific systems (column 13, line 45 – column 14, line 68). The process is monitored and controlled along with the development of a historical database of measurements for any manufacturing process (column 24, line 40 – column 25, line 30). Report generation is also disclosed (column 25, lines 21-23). Thus, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify Osawa to automate and computer control its process apparatus as taught by Skeirik because Skeirik's control system can be used for any manufacturing process including that of Osawa's process apparatus.

As set forth in the last Office action and repeated herein, claim 92 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Osawa (US 5,993,795) in view of Skeirik (US 4,907,167) as applied above, further in view of Takaoka (US 5,687,922). The claim calls for a first cutter, a second cutter, and a press. It is well known for a sesame grinder to have a first cutter and a second cutter. In a closely related art,

Takaoka discloses a sesame grinding device with a first cutter and a second cutter. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Osawa (as modified by Skeirk) with a first cutter and a second cutter, as such would be a mere matter of a design choice, specifically disclosed by Takaoka. With regard to the press, it is considered that Osawa's disclosure of a squeezing process (column 5, lines 16-20) is an inherent disclosure of a press.

As set forth in the last Office action and repeated herein, claim 93 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Osawa (US 5,993,795) in view of Skerik (US 4,907,167) as applied above, further in view of Oktay (US 5,647,429). While Osawa (as modified by Skerik) disclose heating means, Osawa does not specifically recite a heater with flexible length piping. It is an ordinary engineering to use a flexible length piping for a heater. In a closely related art pertinent to the problem, Oktay disclose a heater with flexible length piping (column 4, lines 31-34). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Osawa (as modified by Skerik) with a heater with flexible length piping, as such would be a mere matter of a design choice, specifically disclosed by Oktay.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed on April 21, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regard to claim 88, Applicant argues that Osawa do not disclose equipment connected in a continuous processing system (pages 5 and 6). In response to

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applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "a connected system of components suitable for continuous processing") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

23 With regard to claim <sup>92</sup>92, Applicant also argues that Takaoka does not disclose a first cutter and a second cutter. In fact, Takaoka disclose at least a pair of cutting elements such as mortars (3). Applicant argues that Takaoka does not disclose cutters which are blades used to cut leafy material. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "cutters which are blades used to cut leafy material") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

With regard to claim 93, In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "heat pipe comprising a pipe that has fluid flowing therethrough") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

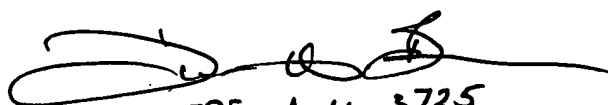
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Y Pahng whose telephone number is 571 272 4522. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM, Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on 571 272 4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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